

INDIANA COMMISSION ON AGING

Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: September 17, 2009

Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center Room A
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204

Commission Members in Attendance: Humbert M. Lopes, Ed Gottschling, Richard (Dick) Grace, Roxsandra Clemons-McFarthing, Anita H. McCollester

Commission Members Absent: Glen Bonsett, John (Bob) Johnson, Geneva Sams, Noble Stallons

Staff in Attendance: Willie Poindexter, Matt Naikelis

Visitors: John Holmes

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Humbert Lopes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the June minutes as written with unanimous approval from the Commissioners.

Matt Naikelis introduced himself as Celeste's replacement for the Division's liaison to the Commission on Aging (COA).

Mr. Lopes began the meeting by discussing his belief that some services (ex: adult day care, assisted living) are not equally distributed across the state. Mr. Lopes is interested in having this information available so that the Commission can direct their attention to advocating that these services be established.

CICOA PRESENTATION: Orion Bell, President and CEO of CICOA spoke on what his agency is doing in regards to their area plan and their strategic planning efforts. CICOA's main focus in the coming year is transportation, home modifications, and health and wellness programming.

Mr. Bell also discussed how CICOA not only serves older adults but also people with disabilities. Orion said that about a 1/3 of the people that use casemanagement services are under the age of 60. One in five clients will have a legally recognized disability in their lifetime, and one in three families will have a relative with a disability.

Orion said that CICOA provided about \$40 million of services to seniors and persons with disabilities. About \$18 million of this was direct funding from CICOA's budget and the rest was from Medicaid payments.

Between home-delivered and congregate meals CICOA serves over 500,000 meals a year. Mr. Bell noted that sometimes this is the only outside contact their clients have. Orion said that CICOA has an ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) that serves over 4,000 people and they also sit on the 211 board.

At the end of his presentation Ms. Clemons-McFarthing asked what they can do to support his agency. Orion recommended advocating for transportation services, health and wellness programs and housing.

DIVISION ON AGING UPDATE: Matt answered a question from the last meeting regarding a mobile unit. Anyone can request an RV to come to their area (DFRV@fssa.in.gov). The mobile unit can help clients receive food stamps, Medicaid, and other public assistance services.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Dick Grace informed the Commissioners about the Golden Hoosier Award ceremony. Dick mentioned that an Area 4 participant was very impressed with the ceremony and the venue.

Area 4 is also hosting a senior fair with approximately 80 healthcare providers participating. The senior fair is expected to draw people from across the state. Dick also pointed out that Area 4 partnered with a men's warehouse, where gently used clothing could be dropped off and Area 4 would distribute them to clients in need.

There was a brief discussion among Commission members concerning the need to have all the Area Agencies on Aging making presentations to the COA regarding what their agency is doing and what barriers they are dealing with. Orion offered to contact the agencies with the Commission's questions.

Mr. Grace motioned that time be put on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss what would be beneficial to learn from each Area Agency on Aging. The motion was then seconded with unanimous approval from the Commissioners

Humbert asked Matt to give the Commissioners an update on all the Adult Day Care, Adult Foster Care, and Assisted Living facilities by county to see what is being developed in each county.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments offered.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business the meeting was adjourned.